



**U.S. Department of Justice**

**Stephen J. Murphy  
United States Attorney  
Eastern District of Michigan**

*Suite 2001  
211 West Fort Street  
Detroit, Michigan 48226-3277  
Fax: (313) 226-3561*

**For Immediate Release:**

**Contact:** Gina Balaya (313) 226-9758  
Bradley Martin SSA-OIG (313) 226-2813

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**EVENT: Guilty Plea**

**Defendant: Claudia R. Thompson**

**FORMER PRESIDENT PLEADS GUILTY  
TO MAKING FALSE ENTRIES IN LABOR UNION FINANCIAL RECORDS**

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The former president of a local labor union pleaded guilty in federal court to making false entries in labor union financial records, announced United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy.

Entering the plea was Claudia R. Thompson, age 33, of Ypsilanti, Michigan.

The evidence presented to the court at the time of the plea established that Thompson was the former president of PACE (now Steelworkers) Local 513, which represents employees of Ypsilanti-based Marsh Plating, Inc., and Finishing Systems, Inc. Thompson admitted that she falsified Local 513 financial records to conceal her embezzlement of more than \$26,000 from Local 513, during the period from June 2004 to August 2005.

United States Attorney Murphy said, "For a union official who is charged with the honest stewardship of the members' dues, embezzlement of this nature is alarming. My office remains committed to rooting out and prosecuting serious labor fraud whenever we find it."

Under the provisions of Section 209(c) of the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959 (LMRDA) and Section 3571 of Title 18 of the U.S. Code, willful falsification of labor union financial records can result in a fine of up to \$100,000 or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Labor-Management Standards.